



PATENT
P55971

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

KI-SEON KIM *et al.*

Serial No. : 09/503,240

Examiner: FISHER, MICHAEL J

Filed : 14 February 2000

Art Unit: 3636

For : MONITOR CASE COMPRISING FACILE DETACH STRUCTURE

SECOND REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION AND
PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.181

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicant respectfully requests clarification of the final rejection set forth on Paper No.8 in light of the Examiner's assertion in Paper No.10, that Applicant's "arguments are not persuasive", and respectfully requests the Commissioner to direct the Examiner to withdraw the finality of the rejection set forth on Paper No.8 under 37 C.F.R. §1.104(b) and (c), and these reasons therefore states that:

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STATEMENT OF FACTS

1. In Paper No.8 dated 15 January 2002, the Examiner issued the rejection of Applicant's apparatus claims 1, 13 and 16 and Applicant's method claims 21-25, under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over the claims of U.S. Patent No. 6,233,026 by Ki-Seon Kim, assigned to the same assignee as the above-captioned U.S. patent application.

2. In Applicant's Response timely filed on the 10th of April 2002, Applicant traversed this rejection and explained the absence of one-way obviousness, and noted that the failure of the Examiner to either provide the completeness required under 37 C.F.R. §1.104(b) and (c) in formulating the rejection as well as the failure of the Examiner to comply with the requirements for making an obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

3. Subsequently, in the Advisory Action dated 22 April 2002 (Paper No. 10), the Examiner neglected to address any of the issues raised in the Applicant's Response of 10 April 2002, and instead simply asserted that Applicants "arguments are not persuasive."

4. Both the rejection set forth in Paper No.8 and the Examiner's explanation of that rejection, is singularly devoid of the requirements mandated for a imposition of obviousness-type double patenting rejection, namely:

(A) A determination of the scope and content of the patent claim(s) of Kim '026 relative to each of the claims rejected in this application;

(B) A determination of the differences between the scope and content of the applied patent

claim(s) of Kim '026 and the prior art as determined in (A) and the claim rejected in the above-captioned application;

(C) A determination of the level of the ordinary skill in prior art; and

(D) An evaluation of any objective indicia of non-obviousness.

5. The non-obviousness type double patenting rejection set forth in Paper No.8 and the Examiner's explanation of that rejection is also completely devoid of any statement by the Examiner as suggested by §804 of the *Manual*, such as:

(A) The differences between the inventions defined by their conflicting claims, namely a comparison of the applied claims of the Kim '026 patent and each of the rejected claims in the above-captioned application; and

(B) The reasons why person of ordinary skill in art would conclude that the invention defined in the claim at issue is an obvious variation of the invention defined in the claim of the patent.

6. Instead, the Examiner has relied upon this disclosure, and specifically, the drawings, as prior art, despite the express provision against this set forth in the *Manual of Patent Examining Procedure* (eighth edition), §804.

7. During an Office interview on 1 May 2002, the Examiner stated that if there are any deficiencies concerning the double patenting rejection, they can be clarified on Appeal.

REMARKS

The *Manual of Patent Examining Procedure* (eighth edition), §804 expressly explains the four factual inquiries to be undertaken by the Examiner, as listed above as paragraphs (A) through (D). None of these factual inquiries has either been made or explained in Paper No.10. Moreover, Paper No.10 is devoid of any clear explanation of either the differences between the inventions defined by the conflicting claims or any explanation of the reasons why person of ordinary skill of art would conclude that the invention defined in the claim in issue is an obvious variation of the invention defined in the claim in the patent. In short, the Examiner has not only failed and refused to comply with the requirement for completeness set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.104(b), as completeness in the imposition of the obviousness-type double patenting rejection is outlined by §804 of the *Manual*, but has failed to identify the particular parts of each claim applied from Kim '026 and comparable limitations of the Applicant's rejected claims.

In short, the Examiner's style is not helpful and is contrary to both the requirement for completeness and the procedures outlined by the manual. By way example, it is extremely difficult to understand how Applicant's process claims 21-25 might be properly rejected by the apparatus claims of Kim '026; these claims are statutorily different in class and in subject matter. The Examiner has neglected to explain either the application of Kim '026 or his interpretation of those claims to support a comparison of each of the limitation set forth in the Applicant's method claims 21-25. Also, no comparison has been made to support rejection of Applicant's claims 1, 13 and 16.

Deviating from the foregoing discussion of the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.104 and the procedure specified to be followed by the Examiner under §804 of the *Manual* for imposing an

obviousness-type double patenting rejection, even a cursory reading of Applicant's independent apparatus claims 1, 13 and 16 illustrate an apparatus that is structurally, functionally and operationally different from the combination set forth in the independent claims 1 and 6 of Kim '026. Whereas Applicant defines a novel combination of a front casing, rear casing and an engaging snap pin, Kim '026 defines a different front case section, rear case section, first guide and second guide means, in conjunction with a snapping device pull for engagingly locking [a] printed circuit board.

In the claims of Kim '026, there is no mention of a rear casing as mentioned in claim 1 of the present invention. Further, there is no engaging pin at a lower rear surface of the front casing as mentioned in claim 1 of the present invention. Unlike claim 1 of the present invention, the claims of Kim '026 do not define a snap portion at an upper rear surface of the front casing detachably engaging with an engaging portion at an upper front surface of the rear casing. Kim '026 also lacks any structure for joining front and rear casings as defined by the claims of Kim '026. The present invention, however, includes in claim 1 the front and rear casing joining. Furthermore, the present invention lacks Kim '026's bottom shield (8) surrounding the printed circuit board for the video driver. As defined by the claims of Kim '026, it is the bottom shield of Kim '026 that connects with the front casing. Further, Kim '026 with its claims does not define all three connectors as seen in claim 1 of the present invention, with first a snap portion mating with an engaging portion of the rear casing, second an engaging pin received in the first hole of the rear casing, and third a snap pin also received in the first hole of the rear casing.

Absent from the Examiner's rejection and explanation is any comparison of any of these limitations, or even a comparison between the pair of snap members, pair of supporting members

and bottom shield of claim 1 of Kim '026 and the structurally different mutually engaging front and rear casings of Applicant's claim 1. Instead of making the necessary comparison of claims, the Examiner improperly invites a comparison between different pairs of the Figures. This approach to obviousness-type double patenting issues is not helpful to Applicant.

RELIEF REQUESTED

Accordingly, the Commissioner is respectfully requested to:

A. Direct the Examiner to make a determination of the scope and content of each claim of Kim '026 in the prior art relative to each claim rejected in Applicant's application, as required under §804 of the *Manual*;

B. Direct the Examiner to make a determination of the differences between the scope and content of each claim of Kim '026 and prior art as determined in the foregoing prayer and each of the Applicant's rejected claims in the above-captioned application, as required by §804 of the *Manual*.

C. Direct the Examiner to make a determination of the level of the ordinary skill in prior art as is required by §804 of the *Manual*;

D. Direct the Examiner to make an evaluation of any objective indicia of non-obviousness as is required by §804 of the *Manual*.

E. Direct the Examiner to identify the differences between inventions defined by the applied claims of Kim '026 and each claim rejected, as is suggested by §804 of the *Manual*.

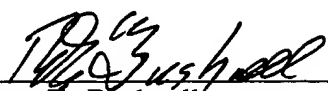
F. Direct the Examiner to state the reasons why a person of ordinary skill in the art would conclude that the invention defined in each rejected claim is an obvious variation of the invention defined in each claim of Kim '026 applied to support the rejection;

G. Find that the obviousness-type double patenting rejection set forth in Paper No.8 is incomplete and fails to comply with a mandate of 37 C.F.R. § 1.104(b) and (c);

H. Withdraw the designation of "final" from Paper No. 8; and

I. Grant Applicant such other and further relief as justice may required.

Respectfully submitted,


Robert E. Bushnell,
Attorney for the Applicant
Registration No.: 27,774

1522 "K" Street N.W., Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone No.: (202) 408-9040

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Attn: Mr. Michael J. Fisher

Facsimile No.: (703)308-3691

Sir:

This is to certify that on this, the 2nd day of May 2002, Second Request for Clarification and
Petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.181, was facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert E. Bushnell,

Attorney for the Applicant

Registration No.: 27,774

Suite 300, 1522 "K" Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20005

Phone: (202) 408-9040

Fax: (202) 289-7100

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